

# DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

## BUILDING PERMITS & INSPECTIONS

FIFTH FLOOR, CITY HALL  
#2 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA  
EL PASO, TEXAS 79901  
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# PERMITS



*El Paso*

### 1.0 PERMITS REQUIRED

EXCEPT AS SPECIFIED BELOW, NO BUILDING, STRUCTURAL, PLUMBING, MECHANICAL OR ELECTRICAL SYSTEM REGULATED BY THE EL PASO MUNICIPAL CODE, SHALL BE ERECTED, CONSTRUCTED, ENLARGED, ALTERED, REPAIRED, MOVED, IMPROVED, REMOVED, CONVERTED, OR DEMOLISHED UNLESS A PERMIT HAS BEEN OBTAINED FROM THE BUILDING PERMITS & INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT. FAILURE TO OBTAIN THE REQUIRED PERMITS, OR ANY CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE IN VIOLATION OF THE TECHNICAL CODES SHALL BE SUBJECT TO THE PENALTIES LISTED IN SECTION 18.02.107 OF THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATIVE CODE.

### 2.0 WORK EXEMPT FROM PERMITS

#### 2.1 WORK EXEMPT FROM A BUILDING PERMIT

- (1) ORDINARY MINOR NON--STRUCTURAL REPAIR WORK HAVING A VALUE OF \$500 OR LESS.
- (2) MASONRY LANDSCAPE WALLS AND FENCES TWENTY FOUR INCHES IN HEIGHT OR LESS
- (3) CONCRETE WALKS, SLABS ON GRADE, AND DRIVEWAYS NOT MORE THAN 30" ABOVE GRADE, THAT ARE NOT OVER A BASEMENT OR STORY BELOW AND THAT WILL NOT SERVE AS FOUNDATION OR STRUCTURAL SUPPORTS FOR FUTURE CONSTRUCTION.
- (4) PAINTING, PAPERING AND SIMILAR FINISH WORK.
- (5) MOVABLE CASES, CABINETS, COUNTERS, AND PARTITIONS NOT OVER 5'-9" HIGH THAT DO NOT ESTABLISH A CORRIDOR.
- (6) SWIMMING POOLS, WADING POOLS OR PONDS THAT ARE IN-GROUND CONTAINING A BODY OF WATER LESS THAN 24" IN DEPTH, OR THAT ARE ENTIRELY ABOVE GROUND CONTAINING LESS THAN 5000 GALLONS OF WATER.
- (7) ACCESSORY STORAGE BUILDINGS (OR) STRUCTURES LESS THAN 120 SQUARE FEET IN FLOOR AREA. THIS EXEMPTION SHALL BE RESTRICTED TO ONLY (ONE) ACCESSORY WITHIN A SITE.

#### 2.2 WORK EXEMPT FROM A MECHANICAL PERMIT

- (1) PORTABLE HEATING APPLIANCES.
- (2) PORTABLE VENTILATION EQUIPMENT
- (3) STEAM, HOT OR CHILLED WATER PIPING WITHIN ANY HEATING OR COOLING EQUIPMENT REGULATED BY THE CITY TECHNICAL CODES.
- (4) REPLACEMENT OF ANY PART WHICH DOES NOT ALTER ITS APPROVAL OR MAKE IT UNSAFE.
- (5) PORTABLE EVAPORATIVE COOLERS.
- (6) SELF CONTAINED REFRIGERATION SYSTEMS CONTAINING TEN POUNDS (4.54 KG) OR LESS OF REFRIGERANT AND ACTUATED BY MOTORS OF ONE HORSEPOWER (746 W) OR LESS

#### 2.3 WORK EXEMPT FROM AN ELECTRICAL PERMIT

- (1) WIRING DEVICES OR EQUIPMENT INSTALLED BY TELEPHONE, TELEGRAPH OR OTHER PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATIONS AND USED SOLELY FOR TRANSMISSION OF TWO-WAY COMMUNICATION.
- (2) PORTABLE APPLIANCES OR DEVICES CONFORMING TO THE ELECTRICAL CODE, FOR OPERATION FROM A RECEPTACLE OUTLET, PROVIDED SUCH APPLIANCES ARE RATED AT NO MORE THAN EIGHTY PERCENT (80%) OF THE BRANCH CIRCUIT OVERPROTECTIVE DEVICE.
- (3) REPLACING OR REPAIRING FLASH OR SNAP SWITCHES, RECEPTACLES, DROP CORDS, REPLACING FUSES, CHANGING LAMP SOCKETS, OR ANY OTHER MINOR REPAIRS OF JOINTS IN WIRING, FIXTURES, DEVICES OR EQUIPMENT
- (4) CEILING FANS, LIGHT FIXTURES, RECEPTACLE OUTLETS OR SIMILAR DEVICES ADDED ONTO AN EXISTING ELECTRICAL CIRCUIT WHICH HAS ADEQUATE CAPACITY FOR THE ADDITIONAL LOAD IN A ONE OR TWO FAMILY RESIDENCE.

#### 2.4 WORK EXEMPT FROM A FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM PERMIT

- (1) MINOR REPAIR, SERVICE & MAINTENANCE WORK. PERIODIC TESTING OF INSTALLED SYSTEMS.

NOTES. UNLESS OTHERWISE EXEMPTED, SEPARATE BUILDING, MECHANICAL, PLUMBING, OR ELECTRICAL PERMITS "MAY" BE REQUIRED. EXEMPTION FROM THE PERMIT REQUIREMENTS SHALL NOT BE DEEMED TO GRANT AUTHORIZATION FOR "ANY" WORK TO BE DONE IN ANY MANNER IN VIOLATION OF PROVISIONS OF THE CODES. OR ANY OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS OR ORDINANCES.